

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 029881  
ORIGIN ARA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, CS

SUBJECT: ART EXHIBIT IN SAN JOSE

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN MET FEB. 1 WITH MR. STANFORD C. STODDARD OF THE MICHIGAN NATIONAL CORPORATION TO DISCUSS THE PLANNED ART EXHIBIT IN SAN JOSE.
  2. MR. STODDARD'S PRINCIPAL INTERESTS WERE IN FIRING UP THE QUESTION OF HIGH-LEVEL U.S. GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION, DISCUSSING HOW INVITATIONS TO THE DEDICATION CEREMONIES WOULD BE HANDLED, AND TO SUGGEST NAMES OF PEOPLE WHOM HE THOUGHT HAD TO BE INVITED TO THE FESTIVITIES.
  3. MR. STODDARD REITERATED HIS EARLIER INQUIRY WHETHER THE SECRETARY COULD BE THE KEYNOTER FOR THE OPENING NIGHT FESTIVITIES, NOW SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, MAY 6, THE WEEKEND BEFORE THE INAUGURATION OF COSTA RICA'S NEW PRESIDENT.
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PAGE 02 STATE 029881

AMBASSADOR TODMAN MADE CLEAR HE COULD NOT SPEAK FOR THE SECRETARY BUT WOULD RAISE THE MATTER WITH HIM. HE ASSURED MR. STODDARD THAT HE HIMSELF WOULD PLAN TO BE AT THE DEDICATION UNLESS UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENTS MADE ATTENDANCE IMPOSSIBLE.

4. MR. STODDARD SAID THAT HE HOPED THE SECRETARY PERSONALLY COULD ISSUE THE INVITATIONS TO A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT AMERICANS. HE INDICATED THAT THIS LIST SHOULD INCLUDE GOVERNOR AND MRS. MILLIKEN OF MICHIGAN, SENATORS RIEGLE AND GRIFFIN OF MICHIGAN, REPRESENTATIVE BLANCHARD FROM MICHIGAN, DR. AND MRS. CLIFFORD WHARTON OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, TOM MURPHY OF GM, HENRY FORD II OF FORD MOTOR COMPANY, JOHN RICARDO OF CHRYSLER, MAX FISCHER OF UNITED BRANDS, ARMAND HAMMAR, AND POSSIBLY OTHERS. AMBASSADOR TODMAN MADE CLEAR THAT THE COSTA RICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE A DEFINITE INTEREST IN ISSUING THE INVITATIONS, BUT PROMISED WE WOULD SOUND OUT THE SECRETARY REGARDING HIS ACTING AS A CO-INVITER WITH THE COSTA RICAN GOVERNMENT. H ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT PRESIDENT ODUBER WOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN HIMSELF INVITING THE PERSONS WHOM MR. STODDARD HAD LISTED.

5. MR. STODDARD SAID HIS CORPORATION'S PRESENT PLANNING WAS TO HAVE THE EXHIBIT ASSEMBLED IN DETROIT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE DETROIT INSTITUTE FOR THE ARTS, AND THEN TO HAVE IT TRANSPORTED TO COSTA RICA. THEY WERE HOPING LACSA WOULD BE ALLOWED TO MAKE A SERIES OF SPECIAL FLIGHTS FROM DETROIT TO SAN JOSE WITH THE PAINTINGS. OTHERWISE, HE THOUGHT AMERICAN OR DELTA MIGHT BE WILLING TO FLY THE PAINTINGS AS FAR AS MIAMI, WHERE THEY COULD BE TRANSFERRED TO LACSA FOR THE REST OF THE TRIP. MR. STODDARD SAID THAT IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF COSTA RICAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 029881

MINISTER OF CULTURE GUIDO SAENZ AND A MEMBER OF OUR EMBASSY STAFF COULD COME UP TO DETROIT FOR CONSULTATIONS ON THE EXHIBIT. HE ADDED THAT THEIR TRAVEL EXPENSES WOULD BE PAID BY FUNDS FROM THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS.

6. ACTIONS REQUESTED: EMBASSY SHOULD APPROACH MIN.SAENZ TO SEE WHETHER HE OR A DESIGATE WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO TRAVEL TO DETROIT AFTER FEB 13. IN ADDITION, PLEASE INDICATE WHETHER CAO WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO ACCOMPANY SAENZ. CONSULTATIONS WOULD PROBABLY LAST TWO DAYS.

7. PLEASE INFORM MR. FIDEL TRISTAN THAT HE CAN GO AHEAD WITH THE AIR CONDITIONING ARRANGEMENTS.

8. PLEASE SOUND OUT THE COSTA RICAN GOVERNMENT, AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL, REGARDING ITS PLANS FOR ISSUANCE OF INVITATIONS. WE WOULD BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN GOCR VIEWS REGARDING THE WORDING OF THE INVITATIONS.

9. PLEASE PROVIDE A REPORT ON PRE-INAUGURATION ACTIVITIES  
WITH WHICH THE EXHIBIT WOULD COINCIDE. WOULD THE  
SATURDAY BEFORE THE MONDAY INAUGURATION BE A GOOD DAY FOR  
DEDICATION? WOULD THE NATIONAL THEATER BE AVAILABLE FOR  
THE DEDICATION FESTIVITIES ON MAY 6? HOW WOULD THE HOTEL  
SITUATION BE AFFECTED? VANCE

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